What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating refractory material composed of fireclay, light-weight refractory bricks, silimanite bricks, zirconium and zirconium-containing bricks, and fusion-cast bricks with compositions of Al₂O₃, SiO₂, ZrO₂ and/or MgO or CrO, the surface of which is preferably in contact with a glass melt wherein

the surface of the material is treated by laser radiation.

- 2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein
- the surface of the refractory material is heated by the laser radiation to at least 2000°C.
 - 3. The method as recited in Claim 1 or 2, wherein an energy density of 2 to 4 W per mm² is introduced into the surface.
 - 4. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 3,
- 15 wherein

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the laser treatment is carried out with an effective exposure time of 0.1 to 5 s.

5. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 4, wherein

the surface is treated using a laser beam with a feed rate of 1-10 mm/s, while the laser beam on the surface has a diameter of 2-5 mm.

- 6. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 5, wherein
- a laser beam with a wavelength in the range of 9 to 11 µm is used.
- 7. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 6,
- 25 wherein

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- a CO₂ laser is used.
- 8. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 7.

wherein

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layer (1b).

the surface is sprayed with a powder or a solution before or during the laser treatment, or the ceramic body is infiltrated with a solution that contains the zirconium-containing and/or aluminium-containing compounds.

- The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 8, wherein the refractory material is tempered after the laser treatment.
 - 10. Refractory material composed of fireclay, light-weight refractory bricks, silimanite bricks, zirconium and zirconium-containing bricks, and fusion-cast bricks with compositions of Al₂O₃, SiO₂, ZrO₂ and/or MgO or CrO, the surface of which is preferably in contact with a glass melt, characterized by a surface treated by laser radiation.
 - 11. The refractory material as recited in Claim 10, wherein
- the refractory material (1a) has a vitreous surface layer (1b).
 - 12. The refractory material as recited in one of the Claims 10 or 11, wherein the surface layer (1b) has a thickness of 100 to 1000 μm .
 - 13. The refractory material as recited in one of the Claims 10 through 12, wherein zirconium-containing and/or aluminum-containing compounds are located in the surface
 - 14. The use of a refractory material as recited in one of the Claims 10 through 13 for
- 25 15. An apparatus for manufacturing and/or processing glass melts that includes the components in contact with the glass melt, the components being composed of refractory material composed of fireclay, light-weight refractory bricks, silimanite bricks, zirconium and zirconium-containing bricks, and fusion-cast bricks with compositions of

making furnaces, Danner blowpipes, for feeder channels and/or for drawing dies.

 Al_2O_3 , SiO_2 , ZrO_2 and/or MgO or CrO,

wherein

the refractory material includes a surface treated by laser radiation.

- 16. The method for manufacturing and/or processing glass melts,
- 5 wherein

the glass melt is in contact with surfaces of refractory material composed of fireclay, light-weight refractory bricks, silimanite bricks, zirconium and zirconium-containing bricks, and fusion-cast bricks with compositions of Al₂O₃, SiO₂, ZrO₂ and/or MgO or CrO that have been treated by laser radiation.